

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Rob Wittman announced the award of two grants to fund the rehabilitation of the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport. The grants in the amounts of \$780,000 and \$1.43 million will enhance the safety of the runway and upgrade it to meet Federal Aviation Administration design standards.

"The Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport is a vital center for encouraging tourism and engaging prospective business; which is vital to the Hampton Roads region. These dollars are going to pave the way for the continued success of this airport," said Wittman.

Currently, the airport's runway has reached the end of its useful lifespan, and action was required to ensure the airport continues to meet safety requirements. The dollars from the grant provide the spark to begin work on the runway's overhaul.

"We are very excited to get the needed funding to start our \$10.8 million runway rehabilitation," added Bert Bateman, Chairman of the Peninsula Airport Commission.

The two grants for the runway rehabilitation are allocated from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration.

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was elected to his first full term in November 2008 and serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.